

<u>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT</u> <u>UNDER 37 CFR §§ 1.56, 1.97 AND 1.98</u>

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

I certify that this correspondence is being deposited on January 21, 2002 with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail under 37 C.F.R. 1.8 and is addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

(Name of Person Mailing Paper)

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In compliance with the duty to disclose, applicants submit herewith a copy of each publication of which those designated by 37 CFR § 1.56 are aware; the publications are listed on attached form PTO-1449.

Consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement is respectfully requested, since the Examiner may consider the information provided herein material to the patentability of the subject application as defined in 37 CFR § 1.56.

Since this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the filing date of the subject application, no fee or certification under 37 CFR § 1.97 (e) is required.

However, in the event the Commissioner of Patents deems that any fee is required under 37 CFR §§ 1.16 and 1.17 in connection with this application, applicants' attorneys authorize that such fee be charged to Deposit Account No. 06-1130.

Respectfully submitted,

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